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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/853,608	05/14/2001	Don F. Purpura	36.P317	6709
5514	7590	06/14/2005	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			TRAN, PHUC H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2666	

DATE MAILED: 06/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/853,608

Applicant(s)

PURPURA, DON F.

Examiner

PHUC H. TRAN

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 9, 16, 17 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-8, 18 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 1-5, 9, 16, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art in view of Ramaswami et al. (US 6108311).

Regarding claims 1-5, 9, 16 and 17, applicant's admitted prior art in fig. 2 discloses an interface device for interfacing between a networkable device and a network, comprising: a hub with plural ports (Fig. 2, element 14) and constructed to repeat network transmissions received on one port to all other ports, said plural ports including a first port connectable to the network (element 11), a second port connectable the networkable device (printer 10); a third port connectable to a circuit board having network functionality (PORT-C connected to element 15, circuit board with extended functionality);

Applicant's admitted prior art teaches further an interface device wherein the networkable device comprises a printer (fig. 2, element 10), and wherein the extended functionality is functionality for secure printing (in page 3, line 29 to page 4, line 1).

Applicant's admitted prior art teaches further an interface device wherein said control functionality provides the control signal based on the extended functionality of said circuit board (in fig. 2 circuit board accesses or controls the printer via connection shown between PORT-C and PORT-B, this interface.)

Applicant's admitted prior art fails to teach an isolation switch controllable operable to isolate the first port from network transmissions repeated by the hub.

However, Ramaswami et al. teaches the concept of a network isolation switch in figure 10, element 101 capable to isolate the client's network transmissions repeated by the hub 102H, fig. 10 (see col. 1, lines 31-58), and the concept of a line card 104, fig. 1, that controls the switch. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify applicant's admitted prior art by placing the Ramaswami et al. network isolation switch inside the interface device's hub between the network and PORT-A, and by adding the service processor and attendant control lines to the board having EXTENDED FUNCTIONALITY 15, fig. 1, applicant's admitted prior art. The switch would have been capable to isolate network transmissions repeated in the hub from PORT-C and PORT-B and to accept a control signal for operation of the isolation witch from circuit board 15 via PORT-C. The motivation to combine and modify is to prevent unauthorized access to the client device as taught by Ramaswami et al. in col. 2, lines 7-11.

Regarding claim 20, applicant's admitted prior art in fig. 2 discloses a method for isolating a network using a device having a plurality of ports constructed to transmit data received on one of the plurality of ports to other ports (hub 14), the plurality of ports including a first port connectable to the network (PORT-A) and a second port connectable to a device having functionality (PORT-C), the method comprising the steps of: receiving data from the network (via PORT-A); implementing the functionality on the device having the functionality via EXTENDED FUNCTIONALITY board 15) and transmitting data from the device having

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functionality to at least one of the plurality of ports (e.g. via connections between PORT-C and PORT-B).

Applicant's admitted prior art fails to explicitly teach isolating the port connectable to the network from transmission of the data received on one port, and transmitting data from the device having functionality to at least one of the plurality of ports after isolating the port connectable to the network.

However, Ramaswami et al. teaches the concept of a network isolation switch in figure 10, element 101 capable to isolate the client's network transmissions repeated by the hub 102H, fig. 10 (see col. 1, lines 31-58), and the concept of a line card 104, fig. 1, that controls the switch. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify applicant's admitted prior art by placing the Ramaswami et al. network isolation switch inside the interface device's hub between the network and PORT-A, and by adding the service processor and attendant control lines to the board having EXTENDED FUNCTIONALITY 15, fig. 1, applicant's admitted prior art. The switch would have been capable to isolate network transmissions repeated in the hub from PORT-C and PORT-B and to accept a control signal for operation of the isolation witch from circuit board 15 via PORT-C. The motivation to combine and modify is to prevent unauthorized access to the client device as taught by Ramaswami et al. in col. 2, lines 7-11.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 10-15 allowed.

4. Claims 6-8, and 18-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

***Response to Amendment***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 9, 16, 17 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Picazo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6006275) discloses Network connector operable in bridge mode and bypass mode.
- Specht, Robert J. (U.S. Patent No. 6414958) discloses Four-port secure Ethernet VLAN switch supporting SNMP and RMON.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUC H. TRAN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3172. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, RAO SEEMA can be reached on (571) 272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Phuc Tran  
Assistant Examiner  
Art Unit 2664

P.t  
6/10/05



DANG TON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER